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East-West Swap Imminent, West German Report Says

Deutsche Presse-Agentur

BONN, Feb. 8—The planned East-West prisoner exchange freeing Soviet dissident Anatoly Scharansky probably will take place before the widely reported date of Tuesday, informed sources here said today.

They said the exchange would not be made at the Glienicke Bridge linking East Germany to West Berlin, where a large number of journalists have been posted in anticipation that the swap would take place there.

"One is less interested in the un-

rolling spectacle and only in the success of all the efforts," a source commented, hinting that the trade might take place Sunday at a place that "might not be directly" on the borders between the two Germanys.

The top-secret negotiations on the forthcoming exchange have concluded, sources said.

The West is willing to free a married couple now in jail in the United States, as well as three men, one of German origin, a Pole and a Soviet citizen, serving prison sentences in West Germany for spying for the East, according to these sources.

Moscow would in exchange release Scharansky and four highranking western agents, including members of the West German military counterintelligence.

The Soviet Union would also free several businessmen who have received sentences for economic crimes

[Three West German business executives held in the Soviet Union on bribery charges were released today and flown to Frankfurt, Reuter news agency reported. The West German government said the release was not connected to the East-West prisoner exchange.]

Scharansky, 38, who has strongly pressed for liberalization of emigration of Jews from the Soviet Union, was sentenced in 1978 to 13 years for treason and "anti-Soviet agitation."